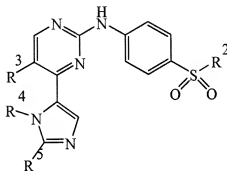


Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R^2 is amino, R^6 or R^6 -NH-;

R^3 is hydrogen, halo or cyano;

R^4 is C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl C_{1-4} alkyl, or heterocyclyl;

R^5 is C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{2-6} alkenyl; wherein R^5 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more methoxy; and

R^6 is C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl C_{1-3} alkyl, or (heterocyclic group) C_{1-3} alkyl; wherein R^6 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more methoxy, ethoxy or trifluoromethyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 wherein R^2 is R^6 -NH-; wherein R^6 is C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl,

C₃₋₆cycloalkylC₁₋₃alkyl or (heterocyclic group)C₁₋₃alkyl; and wherein R⁶ may be optionally substituted on carbon by one methoxy, ethoxy or trifluoromethyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 wherein R³ is hydrogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claims 5 and 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (currently amended): The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein:

R² is methylamino, allylamino, *t*-butylamino, 2-methoxyethylamino, 2-ethoxyethylamino, 3-methoxypropylamino, cyclopropylamino, cyclobutylamino, cyclopropylmethylamino, 2,2,2-trifluoroethylamino, tetrahydrofur-2-ylmethylamino or pyrid-2-ylmethylamino;

R³ is hydrogen;

R⁴ is cyclopropylmethyl, ~~2-cyclopropylethyl~~, cyclobutyl, cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl or tetrahydrofur-3-yl; and

R⁵ is methyl, ~~ethyl, propyl, methoxymethyl or 2-methylprop-1-enyl~~;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 selected from:

4-(1-cyclopentyl-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-2-{4-[*N*-(cyclopropyl)sulphamoyl]anilino} pyrimidine;

4-(1-cyclopropylmethyl-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-2-{4-[*N*-(2-methoxyethyl)sulphamoyl]anilino} pyrimidine;

4-(1-cyclopropylmethyl-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-2-{4-[*N*-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)sulphamoyl]anilino} pyrimidine; and

4-(1-cyclopropylmethyl-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-2-{4-[N-(cyclobutyl)sulphamoyl]
anilino}pyrimidine;

4-(1-cyclopropylethyl-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-2-{4-[N-(2-methoxyethyl)sulphamoyl]
anilino}pyrimidine;

4-(1-cyclopropylethyl-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-2-{4-[N-(tetrahydrofur-2-ylmethyl)
sulphamoyl]anilino}pyrimidine;

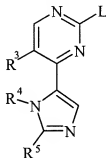
4-(1-cyclopropylethyl-2-methoxymethylimidazol-5-yl)-2-{4-[N-(2-ethoxyethyl)sulphamoyl]
anilino}pyrimidine; and

4-(1-cyclopropylmethyl-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-2-{4-[N-(2-methoxyethyl)
sulphamoyl]anilino}pyrimidine;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

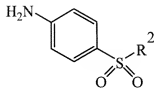
Claim 9 (currently amended): A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof which process (wherein R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are, unless otherwise specified, as defined in claim 1) comprises of:

Process a) reaction of a pyrimidine of formula (II):



(II)

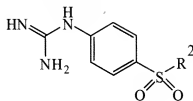
wherein L is a displaceable group; with an aniline of formula (III):



(III)

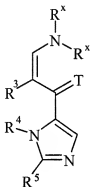
or

Process b) reacting a compound of formula (IV):



(IV)

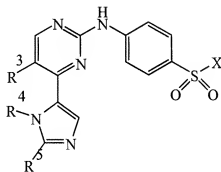
with a compound of formula (V):



(V)

wherein T is O or S; R^x may be the same or different and is C₁₋₆alkyl; or

Process c) for compounds of formula (I) where R² is amino or a group R⁶-NH-; reacting a pyrimidine of formula (VI):



(VI)

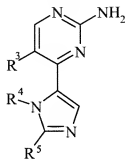
wherein X is a displaceable group; with an amine of formula (VII):



(VII)

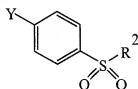
wherein R³ is hydrogen or R⁶; or

Process d) reacting a pyrimidine of formula (VIII)



(VIII)

with a compound of formula (IX):

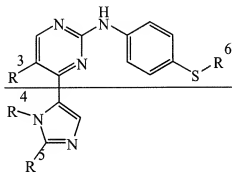


(IX)

where Y is a displaceable group; or

~~Process e) for compounds of formula (I) wherein R² is R⁶; oxidising a compound of formula~~

~~(X):~~



(X)

and thereafter optionally:

- converting a compound of the formula (I) into another compound of the formula (I);
- removing any protecting groups;
- forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, according to any one of claims 1, ~~3, 4 and 7-8~~ 3, 4, 7, 8, 23, and 24, in association with a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.

Claims 11-13 (canceled).

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, which method comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, according to any one of claims 1, ~~3-4 and 7-8~~ 3, 4, 7, 8, 23, and 24.

Claims 15-20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 wherein:

R^3 is hydrogen, chloro or fluoro;

R^4 is a heterocyclyl selected from tetrahydropyranyl and tetrahydrofuranlyl;

R^5 is methyl; and

R^6 is C_{1-4} alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) according to claim 21 wherein R^4 is tetrahydropyranyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 23 (new): The compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 wherein R^5 is C_{1-6} alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 24 (new): The compound of formula (I) according to claim 23 wherein R^5 is methyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.